

# Advisory Commission on Charter Schools

1

*An advisory body to the State Board of Education*

## PUBLIC MEMBER ROSTER – February 2003

### **Steve Barr**

Mr. Barr founded the Green Dot Public Schools in 1999. Green Dot's first school was launched on August 12, 2000, with the opening of Animo Leadership Charter High School. Animo Leadership was the first comprehensive public high school opened in the Los Angeles area in thirty years. Under Mr. Barr's leadership, Green Dot built on the success of the first Animo, by opening Animo Inglewood Charter High School in August 2002 as a State Board of Education-chartered school. He is a founding member of the Charter Leadership Council.

Mr. Barr co-founded *Rock The Vote* in the summer of 1990. The *Rock The Vote* campaigns and field efforts led the way in the first upward surge in 18-24 year old in voting since the passage of the 26th Amendment. In 1994, he led the successful efforts to pass the *Motor Voter Bill*, which was signed into law in that year by President Clinton.

Mr. Barr hosted President Clinton's National Service Inaugural event, which led to Americorps. He oversaw an after-school program Americorps project in South Central and East Los Angeles working with transitional welfare mothers and mentoring groups.

Mr. Barr served as a correspondent on the nationally syndicated Disney-produced *The Crusaders*, and currently contributes to Discovery Channel's *Why Things Are?* He was the co-producer of the Peabody Award winning *Rock The Vote* Fox Network Voting Special in 1992.

Mr. Barr authored *The Flame, The Story Of An Unlikely Patriot* (Morrow, 1987). In the spring of 1998, he joined technology leaders and education reform advocates from in Silicon Valley in forming Californians For Public School Excellence (CPSE). CPSE led the change of California's charter school laws. He represents charter schools on the Advisory Commission; his term expires December 31, 2003.

### **Tom Conry**

Mr. Conry is a teacher in a non-charter public school in the Vista Unified School District. He resides in Oceanside, California. He represents teachers on the Advisory Commission; his term expires December 31, 2003.

### **Linda Frost**

Ms. Frost is Superintendent of the Summerville Union High School District in Tuolumne, California. She is serving as interim principal of the district's new Visual and Performing Arts Charter School. She represents school district superintendents on the Advisory Commission; her term expires December 31, 2003.

### **Beth Hunkapiller**

Mrs. Hunkapiller is a nine-year member of the Board of Education of the San Carlos Elementary School District in San Carlos, California. She is also a founder of the San Carlos Charter Learning Center, the first school to receive a charter in California. Mrs. Hunkapiller is a board member of Aspire Public Schools whose mission is to raise the academic achievement of California's diverse students, to develop outstanding educators, to catalyze change in public schools, and to share successful practices with forward-thinking educators. Mrs. Hunkapiller represents school governing board members; her term expires December 31, 2003.

# Advisory Commission on Charter Schools

2

*An advisory body to the State Board of Education*

## PUBLIC MEMBER ROSTER – February 2003

### **Mark Kushner**

Designated as Commission Chair, Mr. Kushner is founder and director of Leadership Public Schools, a new nonprofit dedicated to creating a network of quality charter high schools focusing on academic excellence and leadership development for traditionally underserved students. He previously founded and was the initial Principal at Leadership High School in San Francisco, the first startup charter high school in California. Leadership High School has had considerable success, e.g., 10 (out of 10) on the Academic Performance Index's Similar Schools Rank, 98 percent college enrollment of its graduates, 2001 CANEC award for Academic Innovation, and a United States Department of Education profile).

A Bay Area native, Mr. Kushner received a BA from Wesleyan University and completed graduate work in literature, law and educational administration at Oxford University, University of San Francisco (J.D.), and Harvard University (Ed.M.) He is a former attorney, teacher of English at the high school level, and soccer and tennis coach. Recent honors include the 2000 Hart Vision Award for School Site Administrator, the highest award given to charter school educators in California, and in 2002 he was named the Harvard Club of San Francisco's Secondary School Educator of the Year. He represents charter schools on the Advisory Commission; his term expires December 31, 2004.

### **Marta Reyes**

Ms. Reyes is Executive Director of Charter Community School, Home Study Academy and Extended Day Program, El Dorado County Office of Education, in Placerville, California. She is President of the California Network of Educational Charters. She represents county superintendents of schools on the Advisory Commission; her term expires December 31, 2004.

### **Jan Sterling**

Ms. Sterling is the Director of the School Fiscal Services Division, California Department of Education. The School Fiscal Services Division includes the Charter Schools Office as well as CDE offices responsible for the apportionment of state funds to local education agencies, financial accountability, and school district organization. She is the designee of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction on the Advisory Commission; she serves at the pleasure of the State Superintendent.

### **Johnathan Williams**

Mr. Williams is the Founder & Co-Director of The Accelerated School in Los Angeles, California. Prior to starting the first charter School in South-Central L.A. in 1994, he taught at 99th Street School in Watts and served as chairman of the local teachers' union. His vision for charter schools and commitment to the growth of the movement are evident in the local statewide and national activities in which he participates.

Mr. Williams has presented at numerous conferences and legislative hearings in Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, New York, Illinois, Indiana, Nevada, Michigan, Minnesota, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia regarding his experiences as a Founder and Co-Director of the nation's first charter Accelerated School. He has also participated in programs with former President Clinton, United States Secretary of Education Richard Riley as well as President George W. Bush and U.S. Education Secretary Rod Paige.

# Advisory Commission on Charter Schools

3

*An advisory body to the State Board of Education*

## PUBLIC MEMBER ROSTER – February 2003

Mr. Williams serves on the Board of Directors for the California Network for Educational Charters (CANEC). As founding member of The Accelerated School, he has developed strong and effective Board of Trustees, served as its president, and currently serves as secretary.

In 2001, The Accelerated Charter School had the distinction of being awarded TIME Magazine's Elementary School of Year. Mr. Williams represents parents (guardians); his term expires December 31, 2004.

### **Vacancy**

Term expires December 31, 2004